

A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES LAELAPTOSEIUS NOVAE-ZELANDIAE  
FROM NEW ZEALAND (ACARINA, ACEOSEJIDAE)

By H. WOMERSLEY\*

[Read 9 July 1959]

SUMMARY

A new genus *Laelaptoseius* and a new species *L. novaezealandiae* are described from New Zealand.

Genus LAELAPTOSEIUS NOV.

With entire dorsal shield with scabrous reticulations. Legs I and IV longer than body. Pre-endopodal shields present. Sternal shield with three pairs of setae and reaching to middle of coxae III. Metasternal shields present with seta and pore. Genital shield with truncate base. Peritreme on the inner margin of well chitinised, strongly reticulated, wide, lateral shields which extend posteriorly beyond coxae IV. Metapodal shields conspicuous and round. Tectum denticulate.

*Laelaptoseius novaezealandiae* sp. n.

Fig. A-II

*Types*—Two females collected from humus from Manurewa, New Zealand, 2/9/34 (coll. E. D. Pritchard).

*Location*—The holotype and one paratype are in the collection of the South Australian Museum.

*Description*—Female: A rather large, broadly oval, well sclerotised mite. Idiosoma 1088 $\mu$  long, 760 $\mu$  wide.

*Dorsum*—Dorsal shield entire and covering the whole body with scale-like reticulations and about 32 pairs of simple setae which are fairly thick basally and tapering to a fine point to 70 $\mu$  long.

*Venter*—Pre-sternal shields present, transversely ovoid; tritosternum with elongate base and a pair of ciliated lacinia; sternal shield as figured with lightly concave anterior margin and somewhat less so posterior margin, anterior width 197 $\mu$ , posteriorly across arms between coxae II and III 235 $\mu$ , length in median line 188 $\mu$ , furnished with rather strong reticulations especially medially, with three pairs of setae to 56 $\mu$  long and two pairs of pores; metasternal shields conspicuous with seta 47 $\mu$  long and a pore; genital shield about as long as wide, with truncate posterior margin, length 210 $\mu$ , width across base 210 $\mu$ , with one pair of setae 47 $\mu$  long and 160 $\mu$  apart, with strong reticulations; immediately behind the posterior margin is a line of four transverse lenticular small shieldlets; the anal shield is well separated from the genital shield, it is roughly triangular, about as wide as long with rounded anterior and on each side with a conspicuous outstanding pore on the margin; the cuticle carries about eight setae on each of which two pairs lie between the genital and anal shields; the metapodal shields are fairly conspicuous and round; the stigma lies between coxae III and IV and the peritreme runs forward to coxae I on the inner edge of a large podal shield which extends laterally to the body margin and posteriorly beyond coxae IV, laterally this shield is confluent with the body margin to the shoulders, and is remarkably reticulate, length of shield 487 $\mu$ , width 200 $\mu$ .

\* South Australian Museum.

*Gnathosoma* as figured with four pairs of hypostomal setae, cornicles small; palpi with 2-tined tarsal seta, and a pair of specialised setae (Fig. H) on inside of genu. *Chelicerae* as figured, movable digit with two teeth, fixed digit with two teeth. *Tectum* denticulate. *Legs*—Generally slender, tarsi with caruncle, a pair of claws and a pad; I and IV as long as or longer than idiosoma, I 1250 $\mu$ , II 849 $\mu$ , III 839 $\mu$ , IV 1110 $\mu$ .

*Male*—Unknown.

*Remarks*—In the form of the genital shield, and in the truncate posterior margin of that shield, this genus is provisionally in the absence of the male placed in the family Aceosejidae Baker and Warton, 1952, as given in the key to the families of the Mesostigmata-Parasitoidea by Evans, 1957.

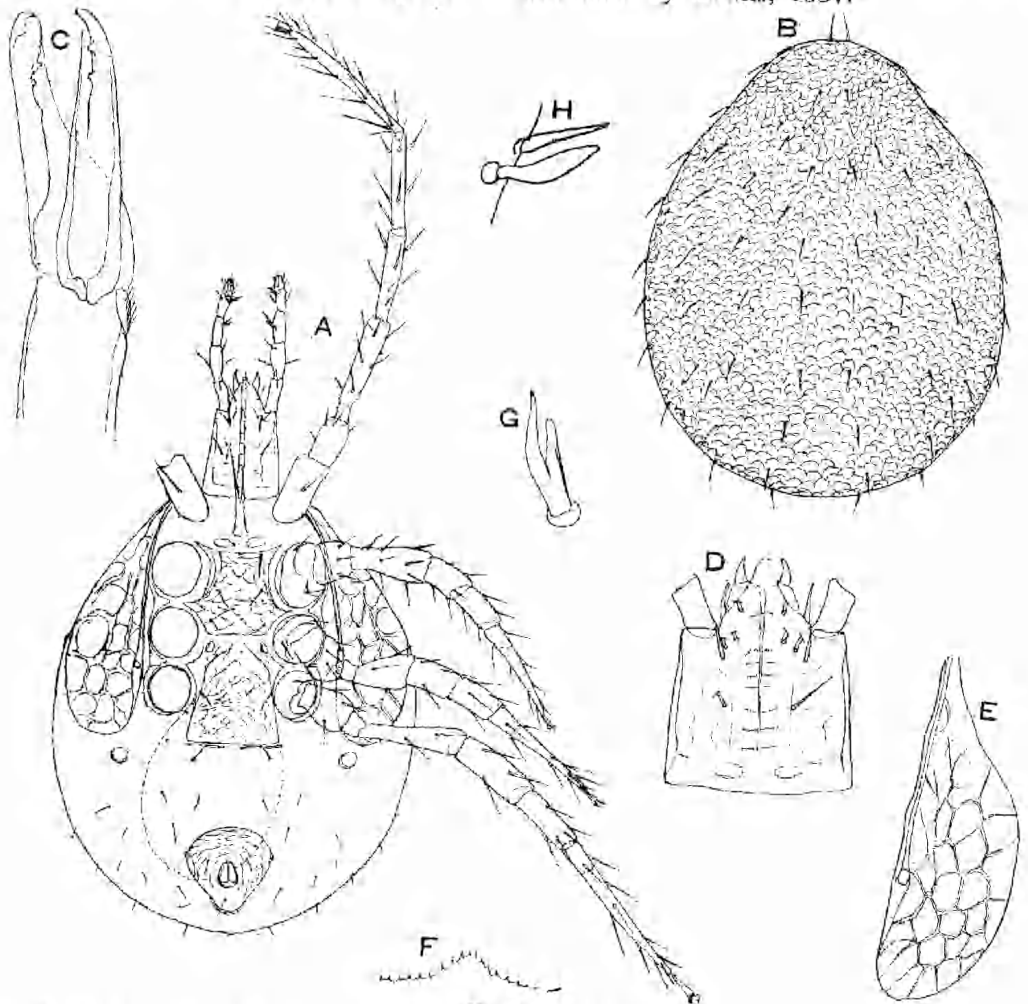


Fig. 1

*Laelaptoseius novae-zelandiae* g. et sp. nov. Female: A, ventral surface; B, dorsum; C, chelicerae; D, gnathosoma from below; E, peritremal shield; F, tectum; G, palpal tarsal seta; H, sensillae on genu of palp.

#### REFERENCES

- BAKER, E. W., and WHARTON, G. W., 1952. *An Introduction to Acarology*. New York.  
 EVANS, G. O., 1957. An Introduction to the British Mesostigmata (Acarina) with keys to families and genera, *J. Linn. Soc. London*, 43 (291), pp. 203-259.